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HK Consulate Scandal

Washington, Mar. 27. The State Department announced tonight that four homosexuals in the American Consulate in Hongkong were fired last December. It said one admitted accepting bribes and gifts totalling nearly US\$10,000 to expedite visa applications.

The Department said John Williams, 25, a native of Carboro, North Carolina, admitted accepting bribes and presents and confessed that on two occasions he was homosexual. The other three Americans, who were not involved in visa irregularities, were not identified. —United Press.

Falkenhause Released From Prison

Brussels, Mar. 27. Two German ex-generals and the wartime civilian head of German occupation in Belgium were ordered freed today, only 18 days after they were sentenced to long prison terms.

The Minister of Justice, Ludovic Mervens, ordered the release tomorrow of General Alexander von Falkenhause, former military governor for Belgium and Northern France, and General Eggerth and Reeder, all of whom were found guilty of war crimes during the occupation of Belgium.

On March 9 a Belgian military court sentenced Falkenhause and Reeder to 12 years' forced labour and Eggerth to 10 years. They were freed under the so-called Lejeune Law which permits one-third of the sentence to be remitted. The generals had served up to six years in prison which was counted double time by Belgian law as it was served before trial. —United Press.

Rebels Repulsed

Salon, Mar. 27. After two days of violent combat, the Communist led Vietnamese rebels appeared to have been stopped today by the French line of posts and fortified villages protecting the Tonkin delta.

Well informed circles reported Vietnamese pressure was still strong in the region of Sonay, about 30 miles northwest of Hanoi, and at the foot of the Dongrieu Mountains about 35 miles northeast of Hanoi.

These sources said they thought the Vietnamese were trying to collect information on the French defence system. —Associated Press.

American Military Power

Mr Wilson Reports

Washington, Mar. 27. Mobilisation Director Charles E. Wilson said today that the United States has "in sight" the military power to deter any aggressor.

"If I were a principal enemy, I would be frightened by our progress," Mr Wilson said.

In his first meeting with newsmen in 12 weeks, Mr Wilson said the nation's progress in rearmament will be made plain in the Office of Defence Mobilisation's first quarterly report to President Harry Truman. This report is due next week-end.

A few months ago there was talk that the production programme would impose an austerity economy on Americans. Mr Wilson has been reported by aides to be much more optimistic now than earlier over progress.

Mr Wilson said there is serious doubt whether the government will go ahead with the proposed "Controlled Materials Plan" for parceling out basic metals to industry on July 1.

He emphasised that the uncertainty does not reflect any lessening of urgency in the munitions drive. The question, he said, is whether less harsh controls might be used which would have lighter impact on civilian goods production.

"We would not want to promote an economy of scarcity, unnecessarily," he explained. "We are trying to assure ourselves on this point before we take the step."

He commented that the inflationary spiral which has shot up prices in the United States in recent months has been "moderated." But he said the government may have to "put the brakes on a little harder."

"We still have the internal enemy of inflation that we must lick if we are to win the whole fight," he said.

He indicated his office will seek further power to curb prices, including revision of the defence production act's restrictions on price ceilings for farm prices. —Associated Press.

MUNITIONS DRIVE

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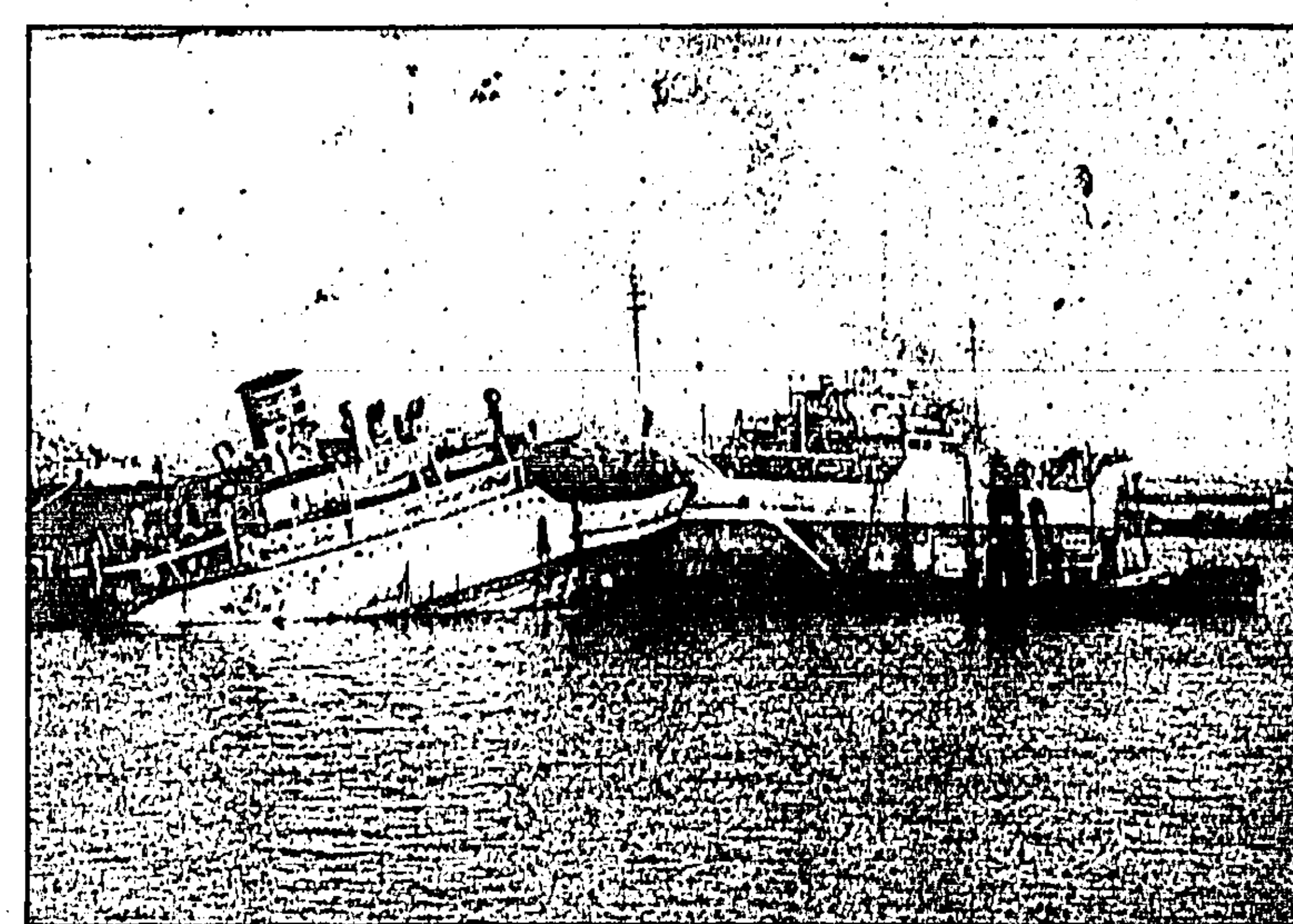
He indicated his office will seek further power to curb prices, including revision of the defence production act's restrictions on price ceilings for farm prices. —Associated Press.

Brazil Clash

Rio de Janeiro, Mar. 27. Shooting between police and Communist demonstrators killed one person and injured five others at Bello Horizonte, capital of the State of Minas Geraes, last night.

The Communists were attempting to celebrate the 29th anniversary of the establishment of the Brazilian Communist Party in defiance of a police ban. —Reuter.

Disaster At Naples



400 Huks Raid Chromite Mine: Kill 6 Civilians

Manila, Mar. 28. Some 400 Huks attacked the Acoje Mine compound in Zambales Province on Monday night, killing six civilians, wounding seven soldiers and causing heavy damage to the mine, which is the largest Philippine producer of chromite. Press reports estimated damage to the mine at 1,000,000 pesos. The Acoje Mining Company office in Manila said damage was "pretty heavy but we have no estimate yet."

The Acoje Mine is in rugged country some 180 road miles northwest of Manila and is near the town of Santa Cruz. Government forces are in pursuit of the Huk raiders and first reports said 10 dissidents had been killed.

Lynton Shaner, 40, of Salem, Oregon, mine manager, armed with a grease gun led the mine guards in fighting the Huks. Shaner, his wife Irene and their 10-year-old daughter Linda, were evacuated to Manila late yesterday on a Philippine Army plane. He estimated the attacking Huks at 400.

The Acoje office in Manila said four American families living in the mining compound were all safe. They apparently were able to retreat to a hiding place during the attack. Shaner retreated when his ammunition ran out.

The Acoje mine is a joint Filipino-American firm with Filipinos owning the majority of stock.

Shaner said the Huks struck without warning, "yelling Indian fashion." He said they looted houses, stores and a warehouse and set fire to five residences of mining officials and other buildings. The Huks were armed with machineguns and automatic rifles. The attack began at 8:30 p.m. and lasted until 12:30 a.m. Tuesday. —United Press.

The 10,000-ton Italian oil tanker, Montalegre, recently exploded in Naples harbour, killing nine and injuring 59. The midday blast shook the whole waterfront, split the vessel in two and caused heavy damage within a 100-yard radius along the wharf to which the ship had put in for repairs. Picture shows the tanker half under water as a fireboat keeps down the flames in the wake of the vessel. —AP Picture.

British Govt. Makes Claim Against Isbrandtsen

New York, Mar. 27. The British Government is claiming a salvage award from the Isbrandtsen Shipping Company of New York for aid given by the British destroyer, Black Swan, to a freighter, shelled off China last year.

The Government is claiming a 50 per cent share of the US\$1,000,000 which it says was the salvage value of the ship, the 6,214-ton Flying Arrow.

It is making the claim on its own behalf and on behalf of the officers and men of the destroyer.

The Flying Arrow received 15 direct hits when attacked by a Chinese Nationalist gunboat between Hongkong and Shanghai on January 9, 1950. The hits caused fires on the after-deck and in a cargo-filled hold.

In pleas entered here today, Britain claimed the Flying Arrow would have become a total loss but for the fire-fighting efforts of a boarding party from the Black Swan.

The claim is expected to reach the Court here soon.

COMPANY'S FLEADING

The company pleaded that four of the 12 passengers aboard the Flying Arrow would have been killed but for the fire-fighting efforts of a boarding party from the Black Swan.

It said that the Flying Arrow was still trading to British ports, where the action could have been taken. But it alleged that action was taken in the United States because the British Government was "improperly trying to gain an advantage" from the fact that the United States Government still recognised the Chinese Nationalist Government and the British did not.

A British Court, the company contended, would have to regard the Chinese Nationalist gunboat as a pirate. In any event, because the Flying Arrow was insured with British companies, the sole real parties to the action were the British Government and the Chinese Nationalist Government.

Another defence was that the salvage claim was prohibited by an Anglo-American treaty. —Reuter.

6-Mile Advance Of 38th SOUTH KOREANS LEAD THE WAY

Tokyo, Mar. 28. South Korean troops of the Capitol Division plunged six miles into North Korea on the east coast and the entire Allied front rolled closer to the 38th Parallel on Wednesday.

The military advances highlighted the pressure for a political decision on the next UN move in Korea.

All across the 140-mile front of the peninsula, the Eighth Army infantrymen plodded through mud against only light and scattered resistance from the Chinese rearguards.

Heavy rains which hampered mechanised Allies and deprived them of heavy air support broke this morning and the clearing skies promised a new round of smashing air attacks against the Reds reported to be feverishly building a new defence system just north of the Parallel.

The ROK troops on the east coast, supported by guns of a United States Navy destroyer squadron, captured the crossroads town of Yangyang on the east coast highway as they rammed three miles deeper into North Korea on Tuesday.

United Press correspondent Peter Kalischer, quoted ROK army reports, said the South Koreans were at least six miles north of the 38th parallel and an Eighth Army communiqué said they were meeting only light resistance.

The ROK troops occupied the villages of Kapyong, northeast of Yangyang, and Sorin and Chonggok, north of the town — all about six miles above the Parallel.

REGULAR LINE

The Capitol Division's pace-setting drive across the border duplicated its initial crossing last October in the vanishing of Allied columns pursuing the North Koreans. This time, however, the entire Eighth Army attack force is advancing abreast along a generally regular line prepared for a counter-blow at any moment from the still undefeated Chinese.

Puerto Rican, Belgian and Filipino infantrymen fighting beside American troops pushed northward on the western front to a line seven miles below the pre-war boundary of Communist Korea.

North of Chunchon on the central front, American patrols reported heavy concentrations of Chinese troops practically astride the Parallel in camouflaged positions one mile deep, Kalischer reported from the Eighth Army Headquarters.

The Communists, stealing a page from the UN propaganda technique, made a "surrender or die" loudspeaker broadcast from a plane which flew over large areas of the central front on Monday night and Tuesday morning.

A delayed report from the front said the aerial bombardment, spreading in broken English, urged the advancing Americans to give up. The plane blared its message over a 30-40 mile stretch of the front between midnight and 5:35 a.m.

FINISHED OFF

American doughboys on the western front finished off another Chinese division — 77th — after closing a steel trap from the east and south.

United Press correspondent Jack Burby reported that American staff officers believed that this division of the 26th Chinese Army has been so badly cut up that it could no longer be considered a fighting force.

The Chinese have been delaying action counter-attacks into the American troops advancing from the linkup area northeast of Uijongbu on Tuesday night and laid a carpet of anti-tank mines and booby traps across their trail of retreat. The Yanks drove on, however, behind a rolling artillery barrage and today were squeezing the Reds of the last thin slice of territory they occupy south of the border on the western and west-central fronts.

The campaign for military control of South Korea appeared to be virtually completed. An American staff officer told Burby that he did not believe the Chinese would make another major stand south of the frontier, but he said he thought they would fight hard "if we hit them in the Parallel." —United Press.

FILM STAR ILL

Hollywood, Mar. 27. Film star Robert Young collapsed on the set and was taken to hospital today.

A studio spokesman said he may be suffering from a combination of influenza and an intestinal ailment. —Associated Press.

Text Of US Treaty For Japan Ready

Washington, Mar. 27. Mr John Foster Dulles, President Truman's Japanese peace treaty negotiator, said today that he "certainly intends" to give the Soviet Union a chance to participate in the pact. Mr Dulles said Moscow would be provided with a copy of the proposed American text of the treaty, along with the other 14 nations concerned.

There were no indications whether Mr Dulles intends to take the matter up directly with Mr Malik, Russia's permanent United Nations delegate, or merely send the treaty direct to Moscow. Mr Malik, after entering treaty discussions with Mr Dulles, announced recently that he would talk no more with the American representative on the subject.

Mr Dulles this week began distributing the US-suggested text of the Japanese treaty to the other nations concerned. He said: "I fully expect before the end of the week to have sent it to all the other 12 members of the Far Eastern Commission plus Indonesia, Ceylon and Korea."

The recipient countries are being asked to provide Mr Dulles with their reactions within one month. The United States hopes in this way to have some definite part nailed down by the middle of the year. The American text, following generally the seven-part outline released earlier, calls for no restrictions on Japanese rearmament, industry or shipping. It provides for the United States to take over the trusteeship of the Ryukyus and the Bonin Islands. It purposely leaves vague the status of the Kuriles and South Sakhalin, which were awarded to Russia at Yalta, as an incentive for Moscow to come in and talk over the subject. —United Press.

To Die In The Electric Chair

Manila, Mar. 28. Two Chinese have been sentenced to die in the electric chair on April 25 for conspiracy in the kidnapping and murder of a wealthy fellow national here.

Carlos Miranda Tan and Uy Chen Tek were condemned to death by the Supreme Court for the kidnapping and subsequent killing of Vicente Po in December 1946.

They were originally sentenced to life imprisonment by the lower court. The high tribunal raised the penalty to death on the grounds that the trial judge "erred on the side of leniency." —United Press.

COMMENT OF THE DAY

What Will Government Reply?

THIS afternoon the Financial Secretary winds up the debate on the 1951-52 Estimates and will, incidentally, endeavour to deal with the suggestions and criticisms advanced last week by the Unofficials. To the taxpayers, the most important proposal is that of the Hon T. N. Chau for a reduction in the standard rate on earnings and profits from 12½ per cent to 10 per cent. We have already expressed unqualified support for this concession although it will come as a very pleasant surprise indeed if Sir Geoffrey Follows agrees with the arguments advanced in its favour. We suspect that he will make use of weighty calculations to demonstrate that any taxation reduction at this time is not in the interests of the Colony, more especially as Sir Geoffrey has indicated that he considers Hongkong cannot regard itself as being financially fool-proof until the accumulated revenue balance reaches the \$250 million mark. The Financial Secretary, however, may find it possible to offer a compromise: that if this coming year again proves more successful than estimated, Government will make a reduction in direct taxation in 1952. The public also hope that Sir Geoffrey today will give a more comprehensive report on how it is proposed to make use of the Causeway Bay reclamation. One suggestion has been made that it would prove an ideal site for a big sports stadium, but while this sounds attractive in itself, we do not believe an open space such as this should be alienated. By all means develop the site to include playing grounds, but they should not be reserved for any particular clubs, associations or institutions. Nor should

the crying need for additional public parks be overlooked when deciding how to put the reclamation to the best use in the interests of the public. A well laid-out open park, with children's recreation grounds and playing fields would serve a substantial section of the general public and would be a welcome and much needed addition to the limited facilities offered by the Botanical Gardens. Another request which we feel calls for some reply today by the Financial Secretary is that of the Hon P. S. Cassidy who said last week that he looked forward to hearing how Government proposed to make allocations from the new Development Fund which starts off the new financial year with a capital of \$55 million. Announcement of the establishment of this fund has been happily received, but its mere existence does not satisfy. It must be well used and that calls for careful consideration. Some indication of how Government proposes to administer the fund is eagerly awaited. There are other important points to which Government will be expected to make some reference today: the Hon M. W. Lo's suggestions for relieving the currently overburdened magistrates' courts; the new air field; town planning policy; TB sanatoria. It is unlikely that Government, at this moment, can give the fullest satisfaction in its replies to these various propositions, but it could restate a general line of policy which it is intended to follow, thereby demonstrating a willingness to be guided by popular opinion. Intentions can be just as important as accomplishments, especially when the continued goodwill of the community is involved.

Two US Divs. For Japan

Washington, Mar. 27. Secretary of Defence George Marshall said today that the two National Guard divisions ordered to Japan—the Oklahoma 44th and the California 40th—would sail this week, probably on Thursday.

The 40th will leave from the West coast and the 44th from New Orleans.

The decision to send these divisions to Japan to provide the garrison there was announced several weeks ago, but the sailing time had not been announced.

The two divisions, called into federal service last autumn, will complete their training in Japan. —Associated Press.

WHEAT CROP RUINED

Garden City, Kansas, Mar. 27. Crop losses followed by drought and long-enduring hard frosts, have destroyed 60 per cent of the wheat in four State grain areas and left the Southwest with the "worst prospect in history," according to A.W. Erickson, crop expert from Minneapolis.

He said only some 40 per cent of the wheat planted in Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico was still healthy. Crop experts at the Kansas State College experimental station agreed that damage to wheat was "extensive" but would not estimate the amount destroyed. —United Press.

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Big Four Talks Develop Into Slanging Match

Paris, Mar. 27.

The "Big Four" Foreign Ministers' deputies, now beginning the fourth week of their talks, made no progress during a session of nearly five hours today—the longest so far of the conference.

The deputies were meeting for the 18th time after a short Easter recess. It resulted in another inconclusive discussion, a British spokesman said.

Plan For "United Ireland" Considered In London

London, Mar. 27.

A plan to abolish division of Ireland and invite "United Ireland" to join the Atlantic Pact is being considered at British Government level, reliable sources said today.

They said the plan was being considered by "several members" of the British Government who were not yet willing to "give it any official flavour."

Details were outlined as follows:

1. To vest in the Northern Ireland Parliament powers at present exercised by Westminster.

2. To call an "all Ireland" Parliament.

3. King George to be linked with the new "United Ireland" in the same way as he is linked with the present Ireland.

Reliable sources, not connected with the Irish anti-Partition League, emphasised that the plan for a united Ireland was not official but had been considered at official level.

They said an "unofficial emissary," possibly a member of the Labour Party Executive, would go to Dublin shortly to sound out opinion there at government level.

Mr. Eamon de Valera, former Prime Minister of Ireland, is said to have expressed the opinion that the Irish government would accept the plan "as a last resort."—United Press.

Peron Puts The Clamp Down

Buenos Aires, Mar. 27.

The American Embassy said today that the "Voice of America" broadcasts over local Radio Belgrano have been prohibited since March 23. Embassy officials hoped the prohibition might be the result of misinterpretation and that the broadcasts might be restored later.

Peron, Wright, British Broadcasting Corporation representative, said that BBC rebroadcasts over Radio Libertad and Radio El Solador also have been prohibited since March 23.—United Press.

Grudge Against All Women

Liverpool, Mar. 27.

A 20-year-old Liverpool University student with a grudge against women was committed for trial today on a charge of grievously hurting a girl student.

The prosecutor, Charles McCauley, told the magistrate that John Hughes made this statement about alleged injuries to Miss Rachel Rhodes, 20: "I hit her... because I hate all women and she happened to be the most accessible victim."

—United Press.

Girl Hanged To Restore Family Honour

Ragusa, Mar. 27.

A Sicilian peasant was under arrest today after hanging his 15-year-old daughter from a tree to restore his family honour.

Giuseppe Grimaldi "executed" his daughter Teresa at their village near here because she led a loose life. The police had found her in a brothel and had taken her back to her home.

After the murder Grimaldi gave himself up to the local police.—Reuter.

Warning By Iran General

Tehran, Mar. 27.

General Hussein Hejazi, the Military Governor of Tehran, said today that martial law and "other immediate measures" recently taken in Persia had stopped panic and were helping to restore order and security.

In a communique broadcast by Radio Tehran, General Hejazi warned "gangs, killers and other trouble-makers" not to repeat their attempts to disturb public security and order.

He announced that the strongest reprisals would be taken against the offenders.

At the same time, the National Front Opposition group issued a communique declaring that the Premiership of Hussein Ala and the imposition of martial law were "illogical and serving only the interests of British spies."

Martial law was proclaimed in Tehran on March 20 after the assassination of General Ali Razmara, then Premier, and was extended last night to several cities of the southern oil-fields, where strikes were spreading.

The Premier, Hussein Ala, succeeded General Razmara. The police said last night that nine armed members of the National Front organisation had been arrested.

Usually well-informed sources in the capital claimed today that only 3,000 out of the 80,000 Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's workers were on strike. It was thought that martial law would prevent the strike from spreading, but one more oilfield had become affected since last night.

Martial law would operate against mass meetings and leaving "agitators," these sources said.

"COURTESY CALL"

Students, who were among the first to come out on strike, study at a technical college of the company's expense.

The British Ambassador, Sir Francis Shepherd, called on the Prime Minister today for the first time since he took office. The call, according to Sir Francis, was "purely courtesy."

"We had a nice chat together," he said, but his statement did not prevent rumours spreading that "another severe note" on oil had been presented by Britain.—Reuter.

New Syrian Cabinet

Damascus, Mar. 27.

Premier Khaleel el Azem succeeded today in ending the crisis and forming a government of Independents and the Republic.

Mr. el Azem retained the Foreign Ministry.

Other posts included Colonel Fozl Selu, Defence; Abdul Rahman el Azem, Finance; Same Kabbara, Interior; Raed Mouliq, Economy and Education; Abdul Bagul Nizam Oldeen, Justice and Agriculture; Sami Tayarra, Public Works and Health.—United Press.

Famine Tales From Bulgaria

Belgrade, Mar. 27.

Bulgarian refugees who have just fled to Yugoslavia reported that their country is threatened with famine and that trenches were being dug along the Bulgarian-Yugoslav frontier by troops under the direction of Russian officers according to an official communique tonight.

The communique reported the statements of 55 Bulgarians who escaped to Yugoslavia within the past week. The Bulgarians said "famine" was threatening all parts of the country, and that Russian soldiers were slaughtering their cattle because they would not feed them.—United Press.

NEW APPROACH TO PEKING IS UNDER CONSIDERATION

London, Mar. 27.

The prospects of a fresh United Nations approach to Peking, now being planned in the Western capitals, depend mainly on whether the Chinese Communist forces launch a new offensive near the 38th Parallel, observers here considered today.

General Douglas MacArthur's semi-political offer of truce negotiations with the Chinese Communist field commander has not affected the intentions of Governments with forces in Korea to make an approach, it was understood.

The Governments were said to be still considering the terms of an agreed approach.

The fact that this was in a sense scooped by General MacArthur has caused a certain amount of irritation in the Western diplomatic field.

In London, criticism has tended to fix on the fact that he spoke out of turn rather than he expressed an intention to make a tactical crossing of the Parallel.

Though British opinion is definitely opposed to any further strategic crossing of the Parallel or to a major campaign in North Korea if this can possibly be avoided, the British Government has always conceded the right of the field commander to indulge in tactical manoeuvring.

But for the moment attention has been shifted to whether or not a major battle on the Parallel is now imminent. This is so, observers here felt it might prove necessary to hold up a new diplomatic approach until the outcome of the new clash was known.

U.N. TALKS

Representatives of the United Nations were expected to discuss informally in Washington today proposals for a declaration of the United Nations' peace aims in the Korean war.

The occasion for the discussion was to be the regular Tuesday meeting at the State Department.

Representatives of the United Nations with troops in Korea would then be brought up to date on their military situation there and have an opportunity of commenting on it.

Officials today acknowledged that a consideration of the peace aims statement, which had been going on for some time, had been complicated by the personal and unauthorised appeal made by General Douglas MacArthur to the Chinese Communist last week and the terms of that appeal.

They expressed the opinion that it was unlikely that any formal protest would be lodged by the United Nations representatives against the political aspects of General MacArthur's unauthorised comment on the Chinese Communist position and the Korean controversy generally.

As long as these statements were not endorsed publicly by the United States Government, it was considered sufficiently well-known that only the Government determined the policy.

It was considered to be known, too, that there would be political consultations between the United States and other Governments before any new political move is made and any political decision taken about crossing the 38th Parallel.

Overseas Broadcasts To Be Cut?

London, Mar. 27.

The British Broadcasting Corporation is struggling to maintain its vast overseas network of news broadcasts in the face of a reduced Government grant.

"We cannot say whether there will have to be a cut in our overseas programmes," a spokesman said today. "We are working out how best to maintain our overseas services with the grant available, though we may have to make small cuts."

But he denied a newspaper report today that the BBC had decided to dismiss 100 members of its overseas news staff.

This year the Government is allocating £4,605,000 for the BBC overseas services—a reduction of £35,000.

The "Daily Telegraph" said this morning that the BBC would drop all broadcasts in Bengali, Tamil and Marathi in its Indian service and continue only its Urdu and Hindustani services.

Broadcasts would still be made to Iran, Turkey and other countries but the Corporation would drop about 24 broadcasts a day in Western European languages, including Greek and Turkish.

English broadcasts to Europe would also be cut.

The "Daily Telegraph" added that some of the BBC's equipment might be used for "Voice of America" broadcasts.—Reuter.

KING'S MAJESTIC

★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★

AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20
& 9.30 P.M. & 9.30 P.M.

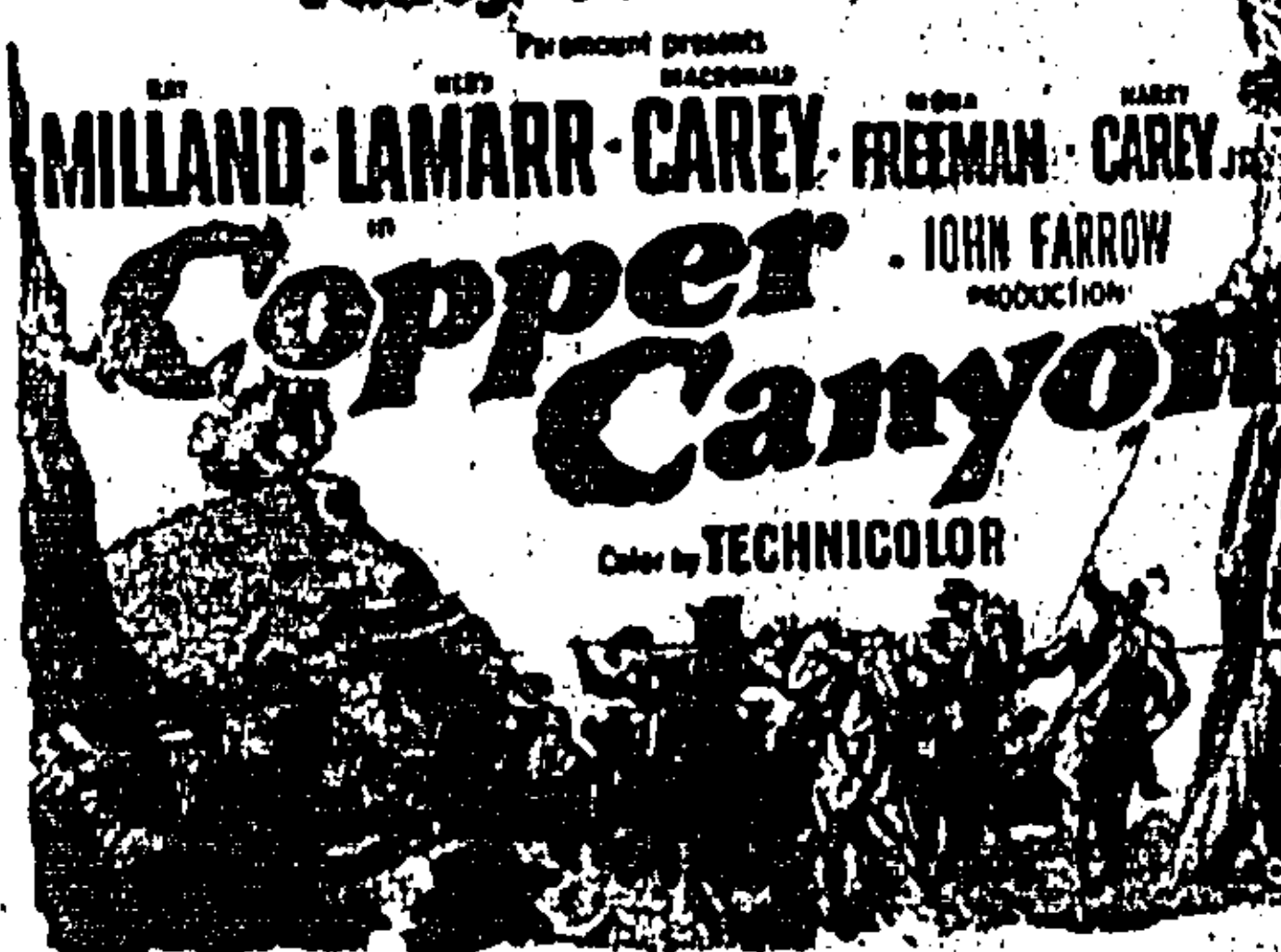
PARIS...GAY, ALLURING... MASKING A STRANGE ADVENTURE!



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★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★

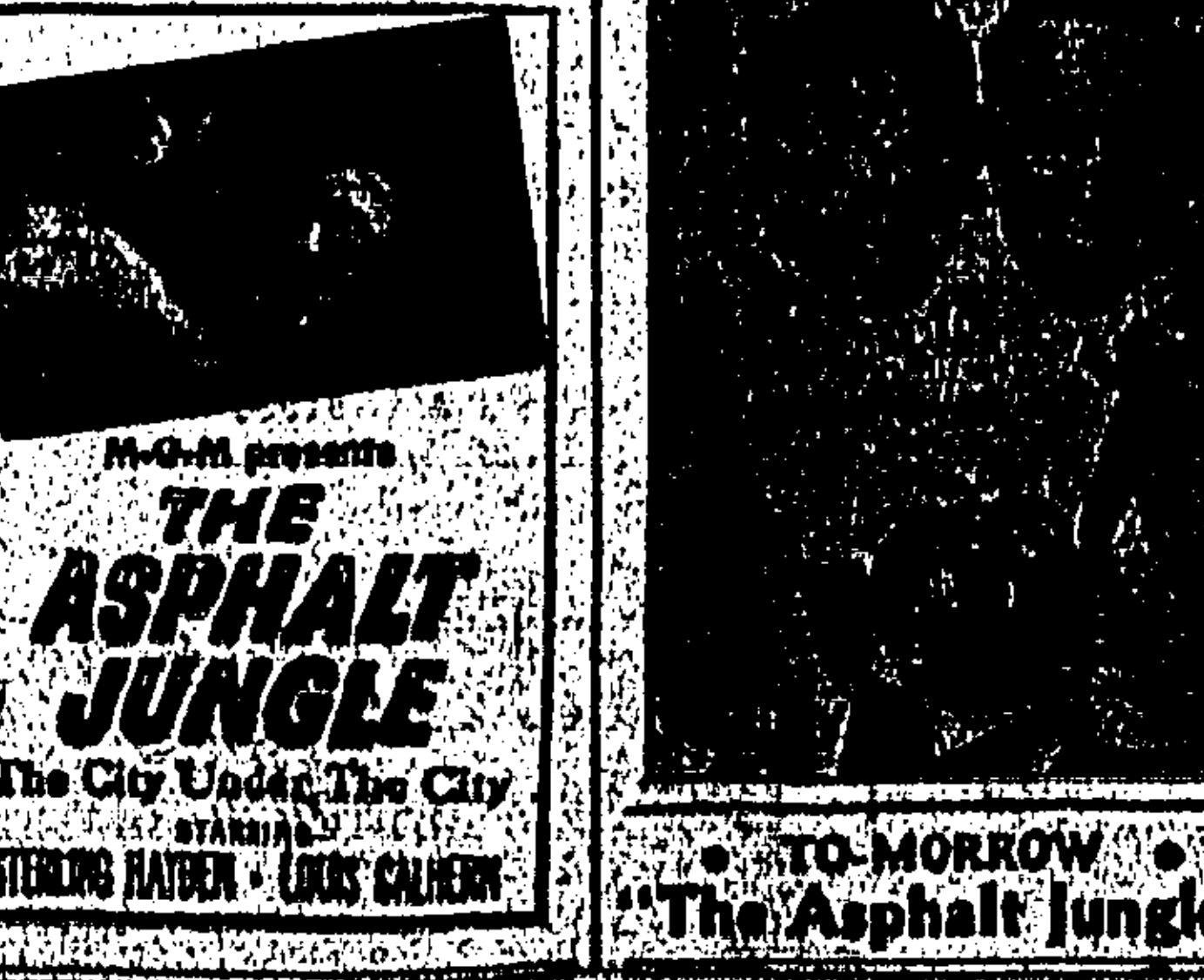


NEXT CHANGE

DAVID NIVEN • MARGARET LEIGHTON "THE ELUSIVE PIMPENEL" IN COLOUR BY TECHNICOLOR

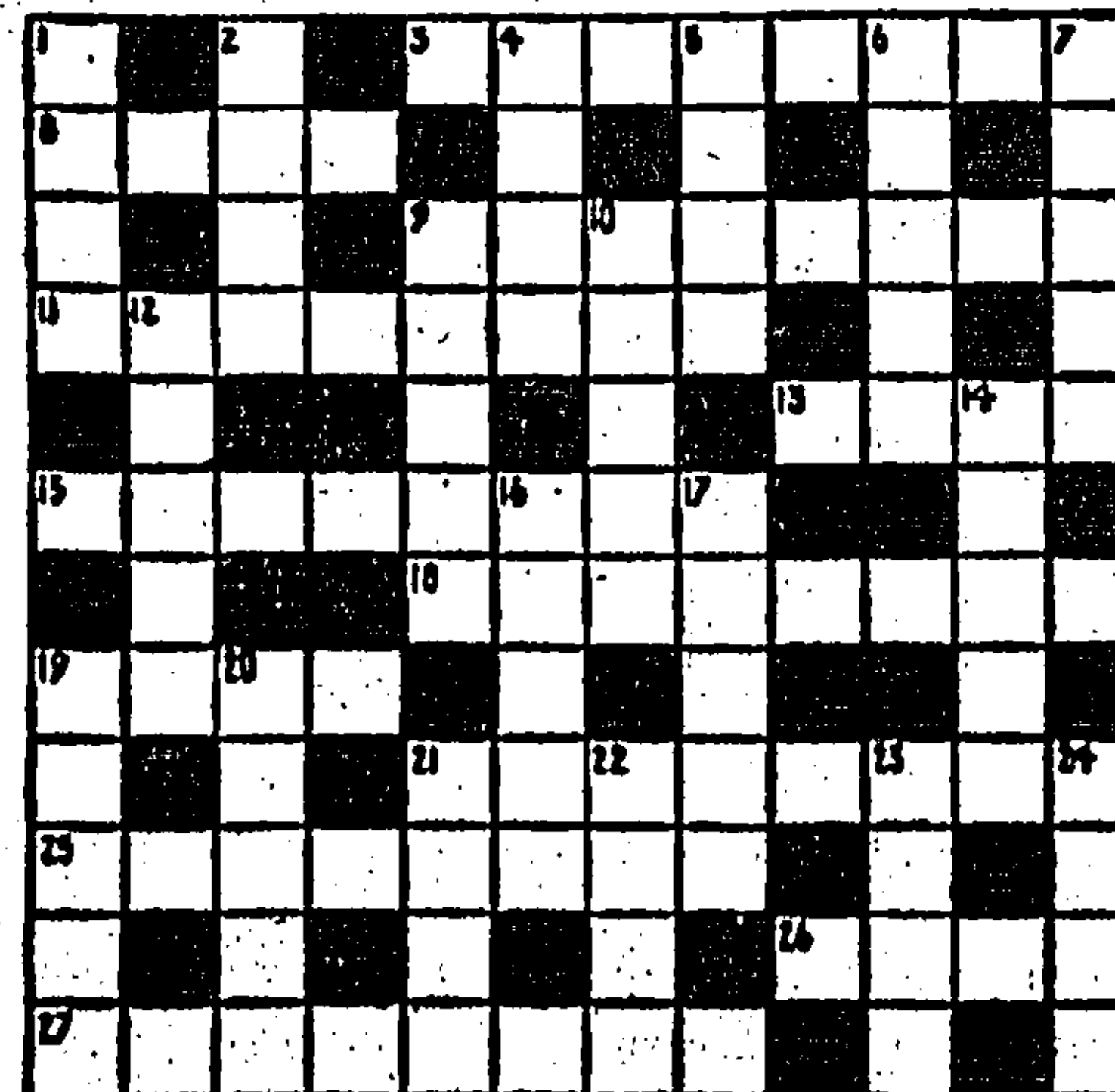
Queen's ALHAMBRA

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.



TO MORROW "The Asphalt Jungle"

A British Crossword Puzzle

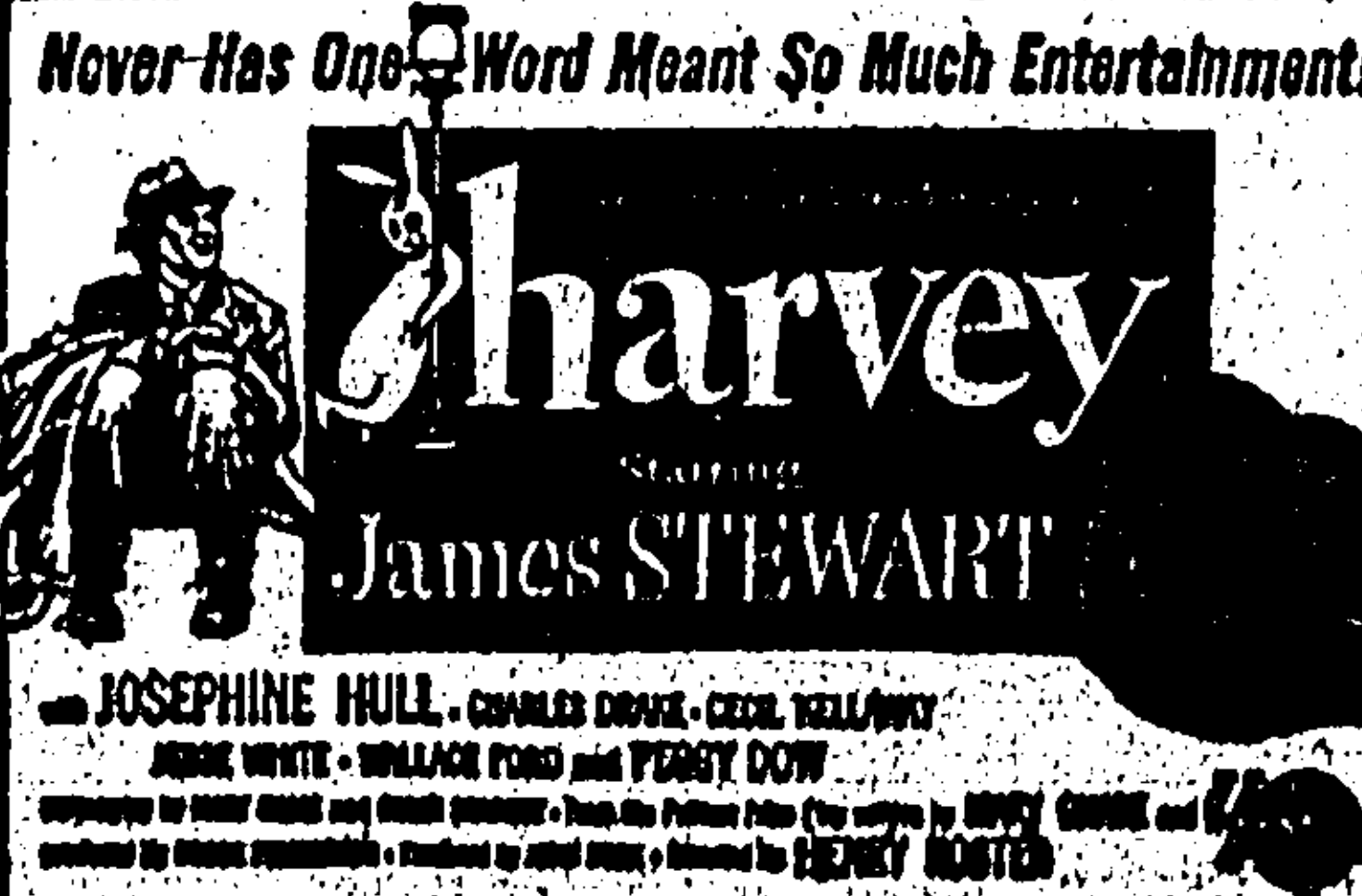


- ACROSS
3. Aptruse.
 8. Assort.
 9. Lessen in intensity.
 11. Advanced.
 13. Timber.
 15. Catty.
 16. Concerning books.
 19. Droop.
 21. Fondled.
 23. Round.
 26. Dumb.
 27. Abandoned.
- DOWN
1. Cavi.
 2. Nought.
 4. Origin.
 5. Run away.
 6. Custom.
 7. Teadie.
 10. Pattern.
 12. First appearance.
 14. Drive back.
 17. Be of one mind.
 18. Last.
 19. Bar.
 20. Stood up to.
 22. Gather.
 24. Transported.
 25. Avoid.
 26. Exploit.

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Braced, 4. Broom, 7. Immature, 8. Elong, 9. Submits, 11. Brimble, 12. Provide, 13. Cogent, 14. Cider, 15. Outlaws, 16. Elucid, 17. Debris, 18. Illus, 19. Churn, 20. Doubt, 21. Strove, 22. Opposite, 23. Delect, 24. Brochure, 25. Aching, 26. Pledge, 27. Dipped, 28. Glass, 29. Tasty.

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Art silk & wool Bedspreads

with a
quilted effect

72" x 90"

in Saxe
or Jade

Lane, Crawford's



Gordon's
Stands Supreme

Sole Agents

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Going to **Manila**
on Business or Pleasure?



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by Flying Clipper!

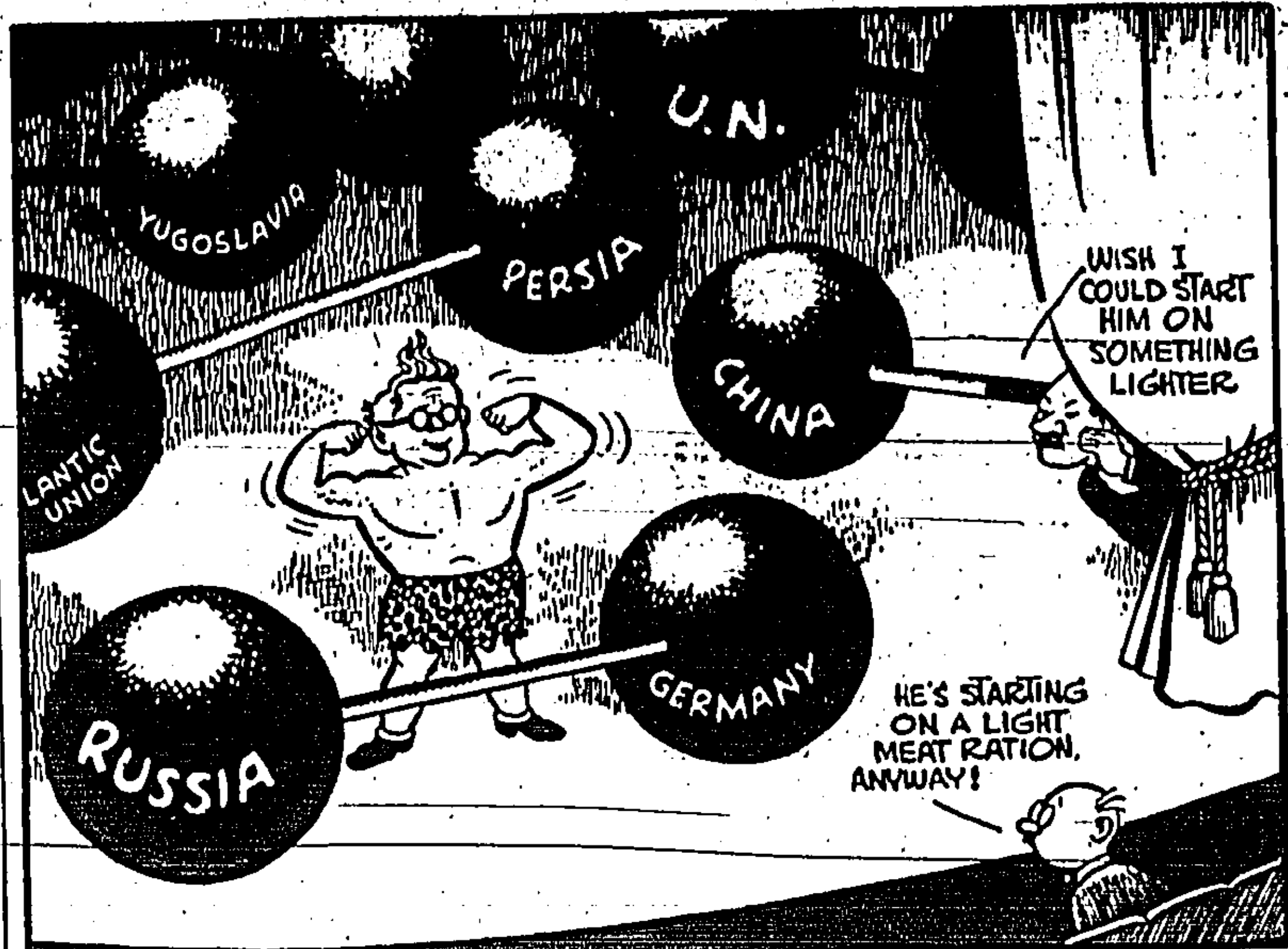
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NEW WEIGHT-LIFTER

Sitting on the Fence....

NATHANIEL GUBBINS

Do not call me "dearie," butcher.
Do not call me "love"

Like the common people, butcher,

I am far above;
Once, with meat unrationed, butcher

You ate humble pie—
"A leg of English lamb for madam?"
"Madam buy, buy, buy."

Do not call me "duckie," grocer.
Though I'm out of luck,
If I cannot give big orders
I am not your "dear" or
"dearie,"
"Love" or "sweetie pie"
Just because your shop is full of
Things I mustn't buy.

I am not your "love" or "dearie"
You behind the slab,
"Ducks" or "darling," I'm still
paying
Through the nose for dab.
Keep your "ducks" for lower
orders
Call them what you wish
If I had a chop for dinner
You could keep your fish.

Butcher, I am not your "dearie"
Nor your "honey bunch"
Even if I cannot order
Fillet steak for lunch.
Grocer, I am not your "sweetie"
Not for ham or jam.
You are still a grocer, grocer,
I am still mad-am.

Awful child, M.P.

"For the next two or three
months we shall have the life
out of the Government with
division after division... We
shall make them sit up day and
night... We shall try to wear
them out."—Reported speech by
Mr. Robert Boothby, M.P., at
Hastings, Surrey.

All of which reminds me of
The Awful Child when she was
young. Her methods were much
the same.

CAN I have another biscuit?
You've just had another.

I mean another to go to bed
with?

You've had the one to go to
bed with.

I mean another one to take
up to bed with me.

You can have that tomorrow
morning.

But if I took it up now I could
still have it in the morning.

You can have another biscuit
in the morning, but not now.

Why?
Because I say so.

But what's the difference be-
tween you giving me one in the
morning and me taking one up
now to eat in the morning?

The difference is that instead
of eating it in the morning you
would eat it in bed now.

But I am not in bed now.
But if you were, you would.

Would what?
Eat it in bed.

Are you tired?
Yes.

Very tired?
Very.

Well, can I have another
biscuit?
No.

Not if I promise I won't eat it
till tomorrow?

No.

Well, can I have a drink of
water?
If you will leave me alone
for five minutes you can drink

the water tank dry, choke your-
self with biscuits, and I hope
your bed will be full of crumbs.

I like crumbs in my bed.

Stately home

LORD GIFFORD, discussing
"The Stately Homes of Eng-
land Tours," said people pre-
ferred to visit houses that are
lived in rather than those run
by the National Trust. Americans
particularly liked to be shown
the walking stick and hat used
and worn by "his lordship."

If that's all they want, may
I suggest that millions of dollars
might be earned if The Sea Ness,
the family seat of Lord Gubbins,
formed part of the Stately
Homes of England tour?

Here the eager visitors could
see the ancient hat long dis-
carded by Lord Gubbins because
Lady Gubbins said it was in-
sanitary, the ash stick his lord-
ship uses when he has gout, and
his old tweed jacket, "Mother's
Relish," which, since 1930, has
been reserved as a national relic.

For the ridiculous sum of one
dollar they could sit on the old
settee, bought long ago on the
never-never, where Sally the
Cat nursed 120 kittens, and
where her successor, Lottie the
Devil Cat, sleeps, and has tried
unsuccessfully to entertain dis-
reputable friends to potting
parties.

On the kitchen china cupboard
they could see the last remain-
ing family egg cup, cracked in
several places, and used by Lord
Gubbins during the war, when
he was lucky enough to get an

egg once a month, the teacups
without handles, the teapots
without spouts.

They could buy as souvenirs
the old shirts discarded by Lord
Gubbins, and now used as over-
alls by Lady Gubbins when she
does the washing-up, the old
shrunken socks full of holes,
which Lady Gubbins borrowed
from Lord Gubbins to keep her
feet warm during the fuel cuts,
the greasy mackintosh originally
owned by Lord Gubbins, but
which is now used by all mem-
bers of the family, and is never
hanging in the hall when Lord
Gubbins wants it.

For an extra fee, they could
be shown the cupboard where
Lord Gubbins is obliged to keep
his handkerchiefs locked up in
the secret drawer where he
keeps his pipe cleaners in case
they are used as hair curlers.

Afterwards, they could buy
the ancient carving knife and
fork, as they are not much use
to anybody in Britain, even
if the handles weren't coming
off.

—(London Express Service)

THE TUSSLE FOR PERSIA'S OIL I reckon it's more than sunshine that keeps the oil bubbling

By Sefton Delmer

TEHERAN, Mar. 19.—
I HAVE before me the
front page of Asnal
(The Gull), a news-
paper run by sympathisers
of Persia's terrorist Moslem
devotees. An enormous
photomontage cartoon takes
up two thirds of the page.

It shows the new Premier,
Hussein Ala, in a double-
breasted lounge suit, standing
undecided at a forked road.

The road on the left, marked
"The road which leads to the
people," shows a Persian beggar
maid protected by the semilun-
gular Lion of Persia.

The other leads towards a
sunburst—browed—Clement
Attlee, and its inscription reads:
"The road on which walked
Hajir and Razmara."

Not a pleasant picture to greet
Hussein Ala at his breakfast
this morning, just before pre-
siding his Cabinet to the Majlis.

For Hajir (murdered on Octo-
ber 24, 1939) and Razmara (kill-
ed March 7) were assassinated
by devotees. Razmara died after
plunging against the oil
nationalisation project.

Probably the cartoon was just
a gentle reminder to Ala that he
must stick to the bargain he
made with Kashani, head of the
Moslem devotees.

But it is typical of the cam-
paign of terror and threats now
going on.

Warning!

MAJLIS deputies were tele-
phoned on the eve of
Thursday's debate and warned
of the consequences if they stay-
ed away from the House and
thus sabotaged nationalisation.

During the debate the Press
and public galleries were filled
with Moslem devotee militants
who frequently cheered and
shouted interruptions.

Next to me sat a young priest
who had been present at my
talk with the leader Kashani. He
addressed the House almost as
frequently as the National Front
men on the floor.

The Majlis president, the
equivalent of the House of Com-
mons Speaker, refrained from
reading the British Note.

'Over, soon'

FOR a couple of days last week
Ala, supported by the chief
of police and the army chief of
staff, was considering the pro-
clamation of a state of martial
law.

But the young Shah, whose
assent they had to have, would
not play.

My friends here, who have
lived in Persia for many years,
take it all very philosophically.
"We've seen this sort of thing
before," these old Persia hands
keep telling me.

"You wait until after Noruz"
(the Persian New Year). "Things
will simmer down. The oil
commission will call in foreign
experts who, if they are any use
at all, will point out all the im-
possibilities of the scheme."

But I see it as part of the
general anti-Western revolt of
the Asiatic people, set in motion
when the British hurriedly
scrambled out of India.

Even if the Moslem New Year
holidays help to calm the excited

Persian spirits, I still believe the
oil nationalisation vote has start-
ed up something which is
stronger than a momentary reac-
tion to sunshine budding
blossoms and coloured eggs.

There are two possible courses
of development, as I see it—

1. THINGS will go on as they
are doing. The oil commis-
sion will reassemble in April,
after the New Year recess. Fear
of Kashani's gunmen will out-
weigh the advice of foreign ex-
perts. The oil commission will
put up a scheme to Parliament
on how to put through nation-
alisation, even though it knows
it is hopeless. Parliament will
accept it.

The British will appeal to
UNO, and find themselves up-
against the Asia-for-the-Asiatics
bloc.

Whatever its outcome, this
development is ideally suited, in
all its stages, to Communist and
Soviet political exploitation.

2. ALA, or his successor will
proclaim a state of martial
law, either with or without the
Majlis. They will stop the terror
by arresting Kashani and his
lieutenants.

The oil company will then
continue to allot the increased
royalties it is now reserving to
the Government so as to enable
it to go ahead with plans for
the economic development of
backward Persia.

One thing is sure. The place
now held by Kashani and his
terrorists would be quickly oc-
cupied by the Communists.

They will have no difficulty in
keeping the nationalisation cam-
paign going.

Discipline

SOMETHING of the Commu-
nists' open- and - above-
ground organisation was seen
the day before yesterday when
it attended a meeting of the
Communist-sponsored "Associa-
tion Against the Exploitation of
Persia by the British Imperialist
Oil Company."

It was impressive. The crowds
on the square in front of parlia-
ment were marshalled by
armlet-wearing officials who had
them in complete control.

Groups of trained cheer-
leaders stood in strategic parts
of the square roaring out their
chants and slogans in that same
well-disciplined unison which I
have heard so often in Warsaw
and Budapest and the Eastern
sector of Berlin.

Young men went round the
crowd collecting signatures to a
"peace" appeal decorated with
the Warsaw edition of the
Pissoso dove.

Yes, I think the cartoonist
who marked up those roads in
poor Hussein Ala's picture mar-
ked out the most important sign
of all facing Persia today—the
road to Moscow and "discipline."

—(London Express Service)

SEVEN RESTLESS MEN

JAMES LEASOR

catches up with them
to find out what they
are doing with the
freedom they risked
'butchery' to get...

SEVEN restless men who
valued their liberty so
dearly that they deliber-
ately risked what Anthony
Eden, as Foreign Secretary,
later called "a cold-blooded
act of butchery" are today
adding up the fruits of
seven years' freedom.

The seven were in a group of
70 who tunneled their way out
of Stalag Luft III in March 1944.
All but three were recaptured.
Forty-seven were shot as a
reprisal. Hitler had threatened
to shoot the lot.

The fantastic story of their
years of tunnelling, the forging
of hundreds of maps and passes,
the making of compasses and
the making of a civilian suit, is told by one of
them, Australian Paul Brickhill,
in his book "The Great Escape"
(Faber, 10s. 6d.).

What have the years between
brought to these men?

Every night a light burns late
in a front office on Southend's
London-road. By it, Frank St
John Travis, a deeper Rhodesian,
works out the quarterly accounts
of his estate agency.

He was the Stalag's chief
escape engineer. He made bel-
lows from kettles to pump fresh
air to the tunnellers; a printing
press from a bit of blanket
wrapped round a roller; a saw
from an old gramophone spring.

He said: "I guess it was just
ignorance that made us attempt
these things. We wouldn't have
thought of making them if we'd
had proper workshops and been
real craftsmen. We just did our
best."

Peace of mind

ONE HUNDRED miles west
of him, on the rim of
Salisbury Plain, a craggy-faced
man of 62 is feeding a pig. He
is Wing-Commander Harry Day,
one of the leading escape plan-
ners. "Wings" Day escaped nine
times.

What has freedom given him?
"Well, I'm doing nothing real-
ly, except feeding this pig of
mine and some chickens. I found
peace of mind in that camp.
Now I'm enjoying it."

Three men only of the 70
escaped back to England after
the break from Stalag Luft III.
Two are now abroad. The third,
a blond Norwegian giant called
Jens Mullen, is a captain in the
Scandinavian Airlines Service.
Sold a friend: "You'll never keep
Jens out of the sky."

Still flying

LAST man out of the tunnel
was Wing-Commander Roy
Langlois. He was captured in
his first few steps to freedom.
Afterwards, his greatest friend
in the camp, Tom Kirby-Green,
was killed.

When Langlois came home, he
called on his friend's widow and
told her about it all. They be-
came friends and later married.
He is still in the R.A.F. He sails
for a new duty tour—to Egypt—
with his wife in the next few
days.

The camp's senior officer, Air-
Commodore Martin Massey, who
had to tell the prisoners the ter-
rible news of the shootings, is
now out of the R.A.F. He
divides his time between his
pleasant cottage at Croyle in
North Devon, and his mother's
home at Gerard's Cross.

"I do selection work for the
Civil Service Commission these
days. Select boys for Sandhurst
and Cranwell, and the Civil
Service." Dry escaped nine times.

"Pop" Green, the "daddy" of
them all, who was 52 years
young when he was shot out-
ing Denmark in 1940 as a tank
gunner—what happened to him?

He runs a one-man car-hire
business at Chichester, hopes
for a busy Easter...

For Major Johnny Dodge, a
distant kinsman of Churchill and
an American by birth, who
served with the British Army in
both world wars, five years "in
the bag," plus five escapes, have
given a new philosophy.

"We never had a cross word
in there. We learned respect for
human nature and for the in-
dividual."

The candidate

BEFORE the war, "The Artful
Dodger"—to use his camp
nickname—swam the Hellespont
and (no direct result) was
adopted as Tory candidate for
Gillingham.

His first task on his return: to
try to win the seat at the 1945
election. He lost by 1,656 votes.

Now he divides his time be-
tween the City—where he is a
partner in a stockbroking firm—
his Knightsbridge flat, and his
18-ton yacht at Littlehampton.

Says The Dodger: "I learned a
tolerance behind the wire. I
never used to have. I think we're
all prisoners in one way or an-
other. Prisoners caged by their
jobs, by our families, by health,
and conventions."

"In the bag" we had a Wel-
fare State—equality and
security, food and beds provided,
and no worries. But we longed
for freedom to live or die in our
own way. I think there's a
moral there somewhere.

"You'll find my new philo-
sophy in Psalm 64, verses five
and six."

This says: "Blessed is the man
who goes through the vale
of misery and use it for a well."

—(London Express Service)

SLEEP—how long can an MP keep awake?

By A DOCTOR

MPs are being kept out of
their beds night after
night just now, and the
Parliamentary air is loud
with complaints from the
Government benches about
the effects of these late
hours.

How much harm does it do
to a man to be kept awake when
he wants to be asleep?

I shall not attempt a political
answer to that question. But the
medical view can be put plainly
enough.

There is no substitute for
sleep, which is positive bodily
process and much more than
mere rest. The average time
spent in sleep is seven and
three-quarter hours per day,
but there are very wide in-
dividual variations.

Some people seem able to
do with much less at any rate
when special efforts are demand-
ed—Mr. Churchill is a prominent
example. Their secret is that
they possess the invaluable
characteristic of being able to

relax completely whenever the
chance comes along, even if it is
only for a few minutes.

These lucky individuals usually
fall deeply asleep without
much effort. This condition
rapidly diminishes after the
first hour or two. They are
usually bright in the mornings,
in contradistinction to the light
sleepers, who may attain deep
sleep only as morning ap-
proaches.

Most of us have suffered from
the effects of lack of sleep at
one time or another, and usually
they have not been as bad as
we had expected.

Curiously enough, experiments
have shown that loss of sleep
has a stimulant effect not unlike
the misleading stimulation of
alcohol (which is really a de-
pressant). For a time the in-
dividual gives the answers to
mental tests just as successfully
as does after a normal night's
rest, and his performance de-
teriorates only after very drastic
curtailment of sleep. But like the
alcoholic driving a car, he thinks
he is doing wonderfully well
long after the pot has set in.

As soon as they were per-
mitted to relax their muscles—such
as by sitting down—they fell
asleep. Anyone seriously in need
of sleep will almost certainly
snore off for hours on end, even
when sitting up, as, say, a crowd-
ed railway carriage.

Fortunately loss of sleep is
remedied quite easily. A long
period of rest is not required,
for body and mind are usually
back to normal after a sleep of
little more than ordinary length.

—(London Express Service)

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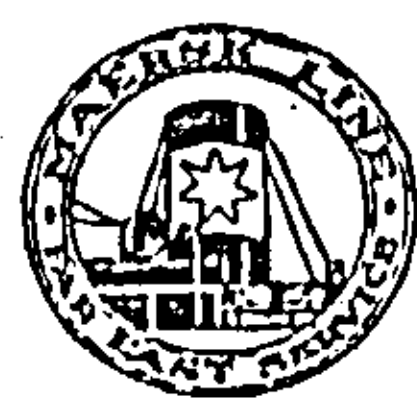
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Slow Business
On London
Exchange

London, Mar. 27.
Domestic stocks were occasionally firmer in a meager turnover following the Easter holiday on the London Stock Exchange today.
Reasons were assigned by the United States grant of sulphur to the United Kingdom and there was some buying of engineering stocks. Oil met further offerings but other commodity shares were steady. Financial Times Index: 1109, unchanged.—Associated Press.

Grain Prices
In Chicago

Chicago, Mar. 27.
Prices of grain futures closed here today as follows:
Wheat—price per bushel
Spot 2.47
May 2.47 1/2-2.48
July 2.48 1/2-2.49
September 2.49 1/2-2.50
December 2.50 1/2-2.51
Corn
Spot 1.70 1/2-1.71
May 1.70 1/2-1.71
July 1.71 1/2-1.72
September 1.72 1/2-1.73
December 1.73 1/2-1.74
Soybeans
Spot 1.80 1/2-1.81
May 1.80 1/2-1.81
July 1.81 1/2-1.82
September 1.82 1/2-1.83
December 1.83 1/2-1.84
New York flour—per 200 lb. sack
\$13.20.—United Press.

Seeds And Oils

New York, Mar. 27.
Prices in the seeds and oils market here closed today unchanged with the following exceptions:
Cassia Oil, per lb. F.O.B. New York, 5.00-5.40.—United Press.

Just Arrived:
**SUMMER
FLOWER SEEDS**
FOR IMMEDIATE SOWING
THE CLOVER FLOWER
SHOP
Gloucester Arcade.

Hemisphere Price
Control System
Suggested By U.S.

Washington, Mar. 27.
The United States and Mexico today asked the American Republics to agree to price controls on goods they sell among themselves.
An unprecedented programme was proposed in resolutions presented to an emergency meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the 21 Republics in the Western Hemisphere.

The U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, in an address to the meeting, urged the Foreign Ministers to act quickly on the military, economic and political fronts to beat the "mortal danger" of Communism. It was the greatest danger the Western world had ever faced. The conference then broke up into committees to handle detailed work aimed at strengthening the Hemisphere's defenses in every way possible. The lengthy United States resolution proposed that the United States and Latin America go on record as promising to try to prevent inflation and help in suggested price fluctuations on both manufactured goods and raw materials traded among the American Republics.

Simultaneously, Mexico offered a resolution that the Central Banks of the American Republics meet to try to balance prices of raw materials and manufactured goods in inter-American trade. The Mexican and American ideas, if carried out, would mean asking the Latin States to keep down prices on raw materials which they sell to the United States while the U.S. in return would be pledged to avoid price rises on manufactured goods.—United Press.

HONGKONG
SHARE
MARKET

Business on the Stock Exchange during the morning totalling \$394,359. Noon rates were as follows:
SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES
BANKS
HSBC Bank 1330 105 @ 1330
Canton 245 22 @ 250
Union 608 140 @ 603
Underwriters 320
HK Fire 133
SHIPPING
Adeco Nov 70c 562 @ 70c
DOCKS, ETC.
K. Wharf KD 70 820 000 @ 5
N. F. Wharf 1350
Dock 1350
Provident 1175
Star Deck 930
Wharfedale 2215
LAND, ETC.
HK Hotel KD 5.55 5.75 2000 @ 5.50
HK Hotel KD 34
100 @ 11.70
UTILITIES
Tian XD 11 1/2 12 2000 @ 11 1/2
100 @ 11.70
Star Ferry 00 1700 @ 0
C. Light (O) 0 5000 @ 0
1500 @ 605
C. Light (N) 3.40
C. Light (O) 5.20
Electric KD 22 1/2 22 1/2 @ 22 1/2
200 @ 12 1/2
Telephone 925
INDUSTRIALS
Cement KD 10 1/4 000 @ 12 1/2
Rope KD 12 400 @ 12 1/2
SHIPPING, ETC.
Dairy 13.20 137 @ 12 1/2
400 @ 12 1/2
400 @ 12 1/2
10 @ 12
Watson XD 10.50
Fordford 22 1/2
COTTONS
Ewo 2.65

New York Sugar
Futures

New York, Mar. 27.
World sugar futures closed today unchanged to 1 higher, with sales totalling 40 contracts. Contract No. 6 closed unchanged to 1 higher, with sales totalling 267 contracts. Prices closed here today as follows:
Contract No. 4 (world) 5.48 bid
May 5.48 bid
September 5.48 bid
Spot 5.48
Contract No. 5 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 6 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 7 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 8 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 9 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 10 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 11 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 12 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 13 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 14 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 15 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 16 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 17 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 18 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 19 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 20 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 21 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 22 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 23 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 24 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 25 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 26 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 27 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 28 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 29 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 30 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 31 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 32 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 33 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 34 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 35 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
September 5.40 bid
Spot 5.40
Contract No. 36 5.40 bid
May 5.40 bid
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